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uments is the full and undoubted civic and military competency of the negro race. Mr. Livermore deserves our thanks alike for a faithful record of an important and hitherto neglected chapter of our national history, and for the vindication of the capacity and serviceableness of a despised and oppressed people.

21. — *La Question Americaine dans ses Rapports avec les Mœurs, l'Esclavage, l'Industrie et la Politique.* Par LE CHANOINE DE HAERNE, Membre de la Chambre des Représentants. Bruxelles. 1862. 8vo. pp. 72.

M. DE HAERNE is a member of the Belgian Representative Chamber. He expresses strong sympathy with our republic, on the ground of a close similarity between the Belgian institutions and ours. He writes:—

“ It will not seem out of place to show here, briefly, that, as regards Belgium, the cotton question is not the only one which interests her in the affairs of America. We have close constitutional analogies with the United States. If their institutions should fall, ours would suffer by reaction. We have copied the American Constitution, not only as to municipal and provincial decentralization, as to that of industrial, financial, charitable associations, etc., as to the great liberties of worship, of instruction, and of the press (of which the English charter offered us equally the model); but we have followed America particularly as regards the absence of a state religion, of which Catholic Maryland gave the first example; we have imitated her in the institution of an elective Senate, in that of a House of Representatives identified with the democratic interest. The national Congress voted the Belgian Constitution with their eyes fixed on the American Union. Were we to consult only the interest of Belgium, we ought to desire that the United States should continue to remain what they have been, and to give us the example of union, of the spirit of liberty, and of decentralization,—qualities which characterize the Anglo-Saxon race, with which the Belgians have bonds of relationship and close affinities.” — p. 63.

M. de Haerne presents a rapid, but carefully elaborated, *résumé* of the history and present condition of the slave-power in our republic, with well-arranged statistical tables. He analyzes the alleged grounds of the present rebellion, and refers it primarily to the conflict between the aristocratic and republican tendencies of the two sections of the Union respectively,—tendencies whose dissilience is to be ascribed solely to the moral influence of slavery upon the entire structure of Southern society. He enters somewhat at length into the tariff question, shows the futility of alleged grievances on the score of the protection given to Northern industry, and illustrates the position that

during the entire period of the Union of these States the South has enjoyed an immense preponderance of governmental protection. He confidently anticipates the ultimate triumph of Northern arms, and the gradual extinction of slavery by moral and Christian instrumentalities. As a loyal Catholic, he contrasts the cold and feeble philanthropy of Protestant sects toward the negro race with the express antagonism against slavery of the venerable mother Church. He comments with just severity on the interpolation by Protestant ministers in the marriage covenant between slaves of the words, "till inevitable circumstances separate us," as compared with the persistent refusal of Catholic priests to sanction in marriage aught other than an inviolable sacrament. The entire pamphlet commands our respectful and grateful interest, and though on some minor points we might dissent from the author, it is one of the most noteworthy, well-reasoned, and eloquent among the many essays from European writers which have been called forth by the present crisis in our affairs.

22. — *The Slave Power : its Character, Career, and Probable Designs ; being an Attempt to explain the real Issues involved in the American Contest.* By J. E. CAIRNES, M. A., Professor of Jurisprudence in Queen's College, Galway, and late Whately Professor of Political Economy in the University of Dublin. New York : Carleton. 1862. 8vo. pp. 171.

PROFESSOR CAIRNES has not, like some of his countrymen, rushed into our great American controversy armed with prejudices and partisan newspaper reports. His subject is evidently not new to him, but must have been his careful study for years. No American can have a more intimate knowledge than he manifests of our entire social, industrial, and political system as modified by slavery. He demonstrates the wastefulness of slavery as an economical system, its dependence on unlimited territorial expansion for prolonged existence, and the tendency of communities burdened with it to deteriorate in all the elements of civilization. He tears away the flimsy veil from all other pretexts for the present rebellion, and shows it to be simply the struggle of the slave-power to regain its lost supremacy. He urges upon the powers of Europe the policy of neutrality, and at the same time the duty of moral support for the North, so far as it may be rendered without express and forcible interposition. He anticipates ultimate success for the North ; yet he regards separation as the probable and desirable result of the contest. He would have the border States, Texas, Arkansas, and Louisiana, incorporated with the Northern portion of the